

Village League head found dead

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — A leader of the Israeli-backed Village Leagues in the occupied Arab West Bank was found dead near his car Friday, Israeli security sources said. The body of Abdul Latif Hassan, who headed the league in the Village of Farkha, 30 kilometres north of Jerusalem, was found lying on the road near the town of Kalkiya. Village Leagues were organised by the Israeli occupation authorities as an alternative political force to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). The PLO has labelled league leaders as traitors and one of them was killed last year.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز مؤسسة صحفية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

Cheysson criticises Palestine meeting

PARIS (R) — French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson Friday criticises the holding of a U.N. conference on Palestine in Paris later this year, arguing that it would be a platform for "extremists." The meeting will be held at the Paris headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in August, Mr. Cheysson said on television that France was bound by diplomatic agreements to receive the conference called by the General Assembly last year. "We regret that this conference is being held in Paris. We do not see what it is going to achieve other than allow the expression of extremist views. If we thought it would bring peace any closer, we would applaud it," he said.

Volume 8 Number 2226

AMMAN, SATURDAY APRIL 2, 1983 — JUMADA AL THANI 19, 1403

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Africa urged to increase support for Palestinians

ARUSHA, Tanzania (R) — An international conference on the Palestinians ended here Friday with a call to African states to increase their support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). The conference, attended by 30 African states, Iraq, Syria and Cuba, urged all African countries to give the PLO full diplomatic status in their capitals. The meeting, which is preparing Africa's position for an international conference on the Palestinians in Paris next month, also urged Africa to step up its support for the Palestinians. It called on the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), to take "additional initiatives to support the Palestinian national struggle." The OAU backs the PLO and condemns Israel in its annual summit meeting resolutions.

Bomb damages PLO shop in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — A bomb Friday wrecked a clothing shop in Beirut belonging to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Local radio and newspapers said there were no reports of casualties from the blast, the latest in a series of attacks on Palestinian targets in Lebanon. The shop sold clothing made by the workshops of Samed, a PLO organisation set up to provide work for Palestinian refugees, especially people who lost relatives in fighting in Lebanon.

Ireland doubles UNRWA contribution

AMMAN (Petra) — Ireland has doubled its contribution to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for 1983. Ireland's 1983 contribution to the UNRWA will be 240,000 Irish pounds, double its contribution in 1982. Japan will also increase its contribution to the UNRWA for 1983 to \$8 million, compared to \$7 million in 1982.

U.N. probes killing of S. Lebanese doctor

TEL AVIV (R) — A United Nations spokesman said Friday the organisation is investigating the killing of a South Lebanese doctor on Wednesday night by a soldier of the Fijian contingent attached to the U.N. interim force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). Residents of the village of Ain Baal told reporters the Dr. Halil Alush and his wife were stopped at a roadblock by Fijian soldiers, who were alleged to have harassed the woman. When Dr. Alush left the car to object a soldier shot him, the villagers said. The U.N. spokesman said senior officers were investigating the incident and the Fijian soldier had been arrested.

Mrs. Gandhi ends tour of Assam

NEW DELHI (R) — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi flew back to Delhi from the troubled northeastern state of Assam Friday at the end of a three-day tour during which 23 people were killed by a bomb in the central Assam town of Hajo. The Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said the town observed a 12-hour strike Friday in protest against Wednesday's bomb attack, in which another 25 people were seriously injured.

PLO leader, Badran hold discussions

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat Friday reviewed Jordanian-Palestinian relations and the latest developments in Arab and international levels concerning the Palestinian problem.

Also present during the discussions, held at the Guest Palace in Amman, were Occupied Territories Affairs Minister Hassan Ibrahim, the deputy commander of PLO forces, Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad), Brig. Abdul Razak Yahya, PLO Political Department head Farouk Kaddoumi and PLO Executive Committee members Hamed Abu Sittah, Dr. Hanna Nasir, Dr. Ahmad Sidqi Al Dajani and Yasser Abd Rabbo.

Mr. Arafat is expected to hold talks with His Majesty King Hussein Saturday.

Earlier Friday, Mr. Arafat headed a meeting of the Palestinian side in the Higher Jordanian-Palestinian Committee at the PLO office here.

Participants in the meeting made a comprehensive review and assessment of the talks which took place at the Guest Palace Thursday with the Jordanian side in the committee, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

They also discussed "preparations for Saturday's meeting of the committee to continue Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue on political action and the future Jordanian-Palestinian relationship," Petra said.

The PLO officials also reviewed the situation in the occupied Arab territories, the "oppressive Israeli acts committed on Land Day, the mass poisoning in Jenin of more than 300 Palestinian schoolgirls, and the continuation of curfews imposed on Al Jalazoun and Al Dhayiriyeh town," Petra said.

The meeting was attended by Mr. Wazir, Mr. Kaddoumi, Mr. Abd Rabbo, Mr. Abu Sittah, Mr.

Dajani and Brig. Yahya.

On Thursday evening, Jordanian and Palestinian members of the committee held a round of talks to "reach a joint visualisation of the next phase," Petra said.

Attending the talks from the Jordanian side were Information Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Occupied Territories Affairs Minister Hassan Ibrahim, Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem, Minister of State for the Prime Ministry Affairs and Transport Minister Ali Subeimat, and Interior Minister Ahmad Obaidat.

Attending the talks from the Palestinian side were Mr. Kaddoumi, Mr. Abu Sittah, Mr. Dajani, Mr. Abu Rabbo, and Abdul Rahim Ahmad.

Mr. Arafat arrived in Amman Thursday for a visit to Jordan which will last several days. He told newsmen at Ramtha that his visit to Jordan is "important and comes at a decisive time for the Arab Nation and the Palestinian issue, particularly in the light of recent developments in Palestinian, Arab and international levels and after the Arab League seven-member committee ended its first mission of visiting the permanent member states of the Security Council."

Mr. Arafat said: "We Jordanians and Palestinians will discuss the joint position in detail, proceeding from the special and unique relationship which the Palestine National Council (PNC) referred to proudly and lovingly."

"The future relationship between the PLO and Jordan is a confederal relationship," the PLO chairman said.

Ban on F-16s draws angry Israeli reaction

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli officials reacted angrily Friday to a statement by President Reagan Thursday saying the United States would not sell Israel military aircraft while its troops occupied part of Lebanon.

A Foreign Ministry official told correspondents that Israel considered the statement "most unfortunate."

"The notion that our forces in Lebanon are in occupation is erroneous because our action against the Palestine Liberation Organisation was an act of legitimate self-defence," he said.

The United States has been delaying delivery of 75 F-16 planes since Israel invaded Lebanon last June.

The official said that President Reagan's statement was the first time Israel had been told that delivery of the jets was linked to withdrawal from Lebanon.

President Reagan said the planes were intended for defensive purposes and could not be sold to a country occupying the territory of another state.

The Israeli official said: "Our

army will remain in Lebanon not as an occupying force but only until we are able to reach an agreement providing for the security of our northern border."

The official said that President Reagan's remarks were all the more surprising in view of what he termed the good progress achieved at negotiations between Israeli and Lebanese officials Thursday in the Israeli town of Kiryat Shmona.

According to Israeli officials, the two countries have agreed in principle to joint military patrols in southern Lebanon after an Israeli withdrawal.

Israel is still demanding that Maj. Saad Haddad, head of an Israeli-backed militia in southern Lebanon, should be given a senior command post in the Lebanese army.

The official said Lebanon was rejecting this as an affront to its sovereignty. The Haddad problem was the last remaining major difficulty standing between the two countries and an agreement, the official said.

King, Qaboos attend army exercise

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein, the supreme commander of the Armed Forces, and Sultan Qaboos Ibn Sa'id of Oman Thursday attended an army exercise involving live ammunition.

The two leaders inspected various combat armour used by the Armed Forces and were briefed on their functional capabilities, the Jordan News Agency, Petra said.

The director of the Royal Armoured Corps welcomed the King and Sultan Qaboos and made a speech praising the King's efforts in raising the standard of the Armed Forces, the agency said.

In the last few years, the army has made significant progress in terms of armament and growth, using modern, computerised equipment, Petra quoted the director as saying.

King Hussein and Sultan Qaboos were met at the site of the exercise by Prime Minister and Defence Minister Mudar Badran, Royal Court Chief Ahmad Al Lawzi, Court Minister Amer Khammash, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Chief of Staff Maj.-Gen. Fathi Abu Taleb, and high-ranking army officers.

King Hussein and Sultan Qaboos also visited the Muwaffaq Al Saiti Air Force Base, where they heard a briefing from the base commander on the tasks and duties of the base's officers.

The two leaders saw an aerobatic show by the base's pilots. Mirage planes were used in the

show.

Sultan Qaboos ended a three-day state visit to Jordan Thursday. The Omani minister of state for Foreign Affairs, Youssef Al Alawiy, told reporters the Sultan and King Hussein had identical views on Arab issues they discussed in talks Wednesday.

These included latest Middle East peace moves.

Sultan Qaboos also opened a new \$20 million heart disease and surgery centre, a gift from Oman to Jordan.

Jordanian officials said the Sultan may spend a little more time privately in Jordan. He is also expected to make a private trip to Britain before starting an official visit to the United States on April 11.

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Pravda rejects Reagan's arms proposal

MOSCOW (R) — President Reagan's new arms control initiative was condemned Friday by the Soviet daily Pravda, indicating that the Kremlin will reject it as a basis for an East-West missile agreement.

A commentary in the Communist Party newspaper dismissed Mr. Reagan's offer for a parity agreement on medium-range missiles as propaganda and said it offered no substantial change from the "zero option" already rejected by the Soviet Union.

Moscow could not accept the deployment of any new U.S. missiles in Europe, which the Reagan plan would involve, as this would tip the strategic balance between the United States and Soviet Union in favour of Washington, the paper said.

The article is not a formal response to Mr. Reagan's proposal but is the most authoritative comment to date.

Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko is expected to deliver the Kremlin's official verdict on the plan at a rare press conference Saturday. The commentary indicates that he is likely to reject it as a basis for a missile accord.

President Reagan's proposals, made public on Wednesday, called for the Soviet Union and Washington to agree to parity in the number of U.S. and Soviet medium-range missile warheads.

The scheme would mean the Soviet Union would have to cut a large number of its SS-4, SS-5 and SS-20 missile forces, while the United States would be able to deploy some cruise and Pershing-2 rockets in Western Europe.

Mr. Reagan said he was making the proposal because Moscow had rejected the zero option, under which it would have had to scrap all its medium-range missiles to prevent the proposed deployment of 572 cruises and Pershings.

Pravda said the latest plan was not intended to achieve an agreement at the "Euro-missile" talks in Geneva but, simply to "blow dust in people's eyes" about the whole missile issue.

Mr. Reagan had announced his new proposal amid a noisy publicity campaign and it amounted to nothing more than propaganda itself, Pravda said.

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(Continued on page 2)

Lebanon talks reach agreement to form tripartite 'security' team

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon, Israel and the United States have agreed to form a joint committee based inside Lebanon to supervise "security" measures in the south of the country, Lebanese military sources said Friday.

They said the agreement came Thursday in the Israeli town of Kiryat Shmona during the latest round of talks between the three countries on terms for a withdrawal of Israeli invasion forces from Lebanon.

Speaking after a meeting at the Lebanese presidential palace between senior ministers and officials and the Lebanese negotiating team, the sources said the headquarters of the security committee would be close to the Israeli border.

Lebanese and Israeli committee members would tour South Leb-

anon in Lebanese military vehicles to inspect security measures—including patrols and an information campaign—which would be taken by the Lebanese army, they said.

U.S. members would remain at headquarters and would not take part in these tours, they added.

The sources said the creation of two Lebanese army brigades to control security in South Lebanon was now under discussion.

They indicated there was still no agreement over the future of rebel Lebanese army Major Saad Haddad, who for five years has controlled a South Lebanese border strip with Israeli backing.

Israel wants Maj. Haddad and his forces to have a key role in South Lebanon, but Lebanon fears this will be unacceptable to most Arab countries, especially

Syria, as well as to many Lebanese.

State-run Beirut Radio Friday also quoted an official source as saying there had been noticeable progress, that most of the points at issue had been resolved and that only a few points of difference remained.

One senior Israeli official said the agreement had not been finalised and some details remained to be concluded, but he added that Lebanon accepted Israel's demand for the patrols in principle.

"The Lebanese call them joint supervising teams. We call them joint patrols," he said.

The reason for the difference in emphasis between the Israeli and Lebanese versions of the agreement was not immediately clear.

'Washington has no information of Israeli plans against Syria'

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. State Department said Thursday it had no information to suggest Israel was planning military action against Syria or Syrian forces in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

The charge was made by the Soviet government in a statement carried Wednesday by the TASS news agency.

State Department spokesman Alan Romberg told reporters: "We do not have any information, to suggest that a build-up (by Israel) is under way or that Israel is contemplating any military action in the Bekaa or against Syria."

He noted that Israel had rejected the charge.

The Soviet statement said mil-

itary preparations were being conducted in Israel "undoubtedly with the aim of delivering a pirate strike at Syria."

The United States, Mr. Romberg said, regarded the statement as irresponsible, undermining efforts to achieve a fair and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East.

On another Middle East matter, he said the State Department was "very concerned" at a recent wave of unexplained illnesses in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

The illnesses, among Palestinian residents, followed the apparent poisoning of about 300 Palestinian school girls from six West Bank schools.

Mubarak arrives in Peking

PEKING (R) — China Friday laid on a special welcome for President Hosni Mubarak, the first Egyptian head of state to visit Peking.

State visitors are usually met at the airport only by a deputy foreign minister.

A delegation headed by Health Minister Chu Yueli greeted President Mubarak and his party at Peking airport Friday and accompanied them to the government guest house in the capital's western suburbs.

The official New China News Agency said the presence of the

Hassan condemns Israeli settlements

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government of Prime Minister Menachem Begin is creating obstacles in the path of peace by stepping up its settlements drive in the occupied Arab territories, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said Wednesday.

In an interview with the Austrian Television, Prince Hassan said: "When we talk about peace, we do not talk about preconditions, but about the formula adopted 15 years ago by the United Nations, which has clear Arab

support, including the support of the Palestinians.

"Without this, any peace negotiations with Israel, which is controlling 50 per cent of Arab lands and its resources in the occupied West Bank would tantamount to political, economic and social suicide," he said.

Prince Hassan noted that Prime Minister Begin is becoming increasingly popular with the Israeli public despite his headline policy since Israel's invasion of Lebanon.

Israeli policies constitute obstacle in peace efforts, Qasem tells EEC envoys

AMMAN (J.T.) — Israel's settlement policies in the occupied Arab territories and the "tactics of pressure and terrorism" employed to evict the territories' Arab residents from their lands constitute an obstacle in efforts to reach a just and comprehensive Middle East solution, Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem said here Thursday.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, quoted Mr. Qasem, in a meeting with a visiting delegation from the European Parliament, as saying that no peace could be achieved unless the Palestinian people regain their legitimate rights and Israel withdraws from the territories occupied in 1967.

Mr. Qasem also answered the delegation members' questions on the ongoing talks between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and briefed them on different aspects of the talks.

The foreign minister also briefed the European Economic Community (EEC) delegation, headed by Luc Beyer de Ryke, on developments involving the Palestinian problem since 1948 and the current efforts to reach just solution to the problem, Petra said.

Europe should increase its efforts in finding a just solution to the problem, the news agency quoted Mr. Qasem as saying.

Thousands throng Jerusalem for Good Friday ceremonies

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Thousands of Christian pilgrims Friday thronged the narrow streets of Jerusalem's Old City and crowded into the Church of the Holy Sepulchre for Good Friday ceremonies marking the death of Jesus Christ.

There were almost no Israeli soldiers in view as lines of worshippers, singing hymns in several different languages, filed into the church which stands on the traditional site of Christ's entombment.

Local Arab police were left to keep order.

The main mass was conducted by the Catholic Latin patriarch of Jerusalem, Giacomo Beltritti. Christians of other sects held services in the many side chapels of the rambling basilica and in other Jerusalem churches.

One group of Armenian monks made a circuit of the Holy Sepulchre, chanting prayers in all the different crypts and chapels.

All Jerusalem hotels are full for Easter and for the Jewish Passover

which is also being celebrated this week.

Some pilgrims, following the route taken by Jesus on his way to be crucified, stopped to kneel every few moments.

The number of people squeezing through the twisting alleyways was so great that at some points people found themselves unable to move in the direction of the Holy Sepulchre.

Inside the crowded church, it was almost impossible to enter the small crypt believed by Christians to contain the tomb where the body of Jesus was taken after his crucifixion.

Last year, Easter Sunday was marked by violence as an American-born Israeli reservist soldier barricaded himself on Haram Al Sharif, one of the holiest shrines in Islam.

Two people were killed in a gun battle which preceded the capture of the man, Alan Goodman, by security forces.

He has since stood trial for murder and is awaiting sentence.

Andropov to visit Syria

DAMASCUS (J.T.) — Soviet Communist Party leader Yuri Andropov will pay an official visit to Syria this month at the head of a high-level Soviet delegation, diplomatic sources in Damascus were quoted as saying by the Qatari News Agency Thursday.

Observers in the Syrian capital attach a great significance to the visit, which will be the first by Mr. Andropov to the Middle East since he assumed office last November.

Urgent talks planned on Gulf oil slick

BAHRAIN (R) — Environment experts will have emergency talks in Bahrain on Monday on how to deal with a huge oil slick stretching across nearly half the width of the Gulf.

Environment experts said Friday there was no immediate danger to the coasts of Bahrain or Qatar, the two states likely to be affected first. Winds during the past 24 hours had pushed the edge of the slick to about 20 miles north-east of their shores.

However, if northerly winds pick up, a slick about 15 miles long and 10 miles wide is bound to hit Bahrain's northern coast in less than five days, according to Dr. Khaled Fakhro, head of Bahrain's emergency environment centre.

If the oil does encroach, a desalination plant near Sitra on the island's northeast coast will be temporarily shut down, he said.

reception committee, which also included Deputy Foreign Minister Wen Yezhan, showed the great importance the government attached to Mr. Mubarak's visit.

On Saturday, Premier Zhao Ziyang is due to preside over a formal welcoming ceremony for the Egyptian leader at the Great Hall of the People.

Over the weekend Mr. Mubarak will hold two rounds of talks with Mr. Zhao and will also meet Communist Party Secretary-General Hu Yaobang and elder statesman Deng Xiaoping.

Bahrain, like most Gulf states, partially depends on desalinated sea water to meet its fresh water needs.

In Doha, capital of nearby Qatar, earth barriers and oil booms were set up Friday around a desalination plant supplying the city with its drinking water.

Contractors and construction workers were asked to help to dump earth around the plant to protect it from any oil that might clog the pipes. Pollution spotters are standing by along the coast.

International experts have flown to the Gulf to advise on how to control the pollution.

The oil, a heavy-grade crude, spewed from the damaged Iranian wells in a fighting zone northwest of Iran's main terminal at Kharg Island.

INSIDE

- Digs reveal possible links between people of Jordan and the Americas, page 2
- Malhas urges WHO to probe Jenin poisoning, page 3
- Efforts renewed to find solution to centuries-old Irish problem, page 4
- Weather forecasting is no joke, page 5
- Defeat in Monte Carlo Open signals end to Borg's career, page 6
- Nigerian move seen as decision not to launch oil price war, page 7
- Vietnamese forces attack Khmer Rouge, page 8

HOME NEWS

Excavation reveals possible links between peoples of Jordan and Americas

By Muktashef Gharayeb
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Three weeks of intensive studies following an emergency archaeological excavation in southern Jordan have turned up dramatic, though still inconclusive, evidence that there may have been links between the ancient inhabitants of Jordan and the native Indians of North and South America as far back as 1000-850 BC.

During the past three weeks, a small team of Jordanian, American and Mexican archaeologists with a particular interest in trade and seafaring contacts among the peoples of the Middle East and North and South America during the first two millennia BC has been studying a small site alongside the railway that hauls phosphate rock between Hassa and Aqaba. The site was discovered by accident about four months ago when workers were clearing an area where a phosphate train had derailed after going around a bend too fast.

Two fully loaded wagons, each weighing about 35 tonnes, had apparently fallen directly upon a small Nabataean fort dating back to around 500-200 BC.

When the wagons were put back on the rails, the depression in the earth where they had fallen proved to have a considerable amount of old pottery. The Department of Antiquities representative in Maan, Mr. Naqi Saree, was notified by some West German railway experts who thought that an archaeological site had been stumbled upon.

Mr. Saree quickly identified the pottery as typical early Nabataean ware, the forerunner of the very thin, smooth and finely decorated pottery that would be produced by the Nabataeans at Petra during the following three or four hundred years.

Mr. Saree told the Jordan Times in an interview here last week that he also noticed some thicker, darker-coloured and rougher pottery sherds that were more typical of Iron Age wares that have been found throughout the area of the ancient Edomite Kingdom of south Jordan.

Therefore he decided to request some additional personnel from Amman to carry out a short, one-week excavation at the site to see what may have existed below the layer of the small Nabataean fort. He thought that an earlier Iron Age (1200-330 BC) settlement may have existed on the same site, following the pattern throughout southern Jordan — of small Iron Age settlements that continued to be used in Nabataean and Roman times, typically as forts along the main north-south road that connected the kingdoms of central and southern Jordan (Gilead, Moab, Edom) with Aqaba and the main trading routes from there leading to Gaza and Egypt or to the Arabian Gulf and the Far East.

A string of such Nabataean forts runs along the route of the existing railway. The site that has just been excavated lies almost exactly between two of these forts, named Khirbet Al Khalidi and Khirbet Al Kithara, in the area between Wadi Rum and Aqaba.

The first three days of excavation turned up a considerable amount of distinct Iron Age pottery that was confirmed in Amman as most probably coming from the Early Iron Age, or the period 1150-850 BC.

This convinced the Department of Antiquities to expand the excavation with the hope of gathering a good deal of information on this

very complex period on Jordanian history. A month-long dig was planned under the supervision of Mr. Saree, but it became obvious within two days of work that there was going to be a problem reconciling the needs of the railway with those of the archaeologists. The site of the Iron Age fortress is so close to the railway line that the excavations were threatening the stability of the soil underneath the railroad tracks. The archaeologists agreed to dig only in an area at least five metres away from the tracks, but the situation became more complicated in the second week of the dig when workers started finding small ceramic and stone artifacts that were unlike anything ever seen in Jordan.

The pottery sherds included simple drawings of what appeared to be a series of four human faces, one above the other, while the smooth stone tablets, about 12 centimetre square in size, have simple but bold engravings with several cricles connected by straight lines. These objects were found in an area only about one metre away from the railway track, and it was clear that more finds would be made if excavations could continue directly underneath the railway.

The Department of Antiquities contacted the director of the Jordan Hejaz Railway Corporation and the management of the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) and made an extraordinary request that rail traffic be halted for a short period while the archaeologists could excavate the site.

In view of the high levels of phosphate stored at the JPMC storehouses in Aqaba, and the availability of idle trucks to carry phosphate to Aqaba by road, it was agreed that the railway would halt

work for three weeks. The Department of Antiquities quickly mobilised a team of Iron Age experts to work at the site and the dig was completed in three weeks, between Dec. 23 and Jan. 15, in virtual secrecy.

It has now been tentatively determined that the artifacts discovered at the site are very likely of North or South American origin. A two-man team of archaeologists from the University of Arizona (USA) and the University of the Americas (Mexico) has been here for three weeks in March analysing the material along with Jordanian archaeologists with particular expertise in the Iron Age of Jordan Syria/Palestine, the early Mesopotamian civilisations and ancient Egyptian cultures.

At first, the archaeologists who dug the site assumed the new discoveries were of Mesopotamian or possibly Indus Civilisation origin. This theory was quickly discarded, and the idea of links with the Western Hemisphere started to be taken seriously when an American archaeologist teaching at Yarmouk University discerned strong similarities with artifacts of the early Indian cultures of North and South America — the so-called Mesoamericans. When this suggestion was seconded by a visiting scholar from the Smithsonian Institution of Washington, D.C., who was passing through Jordan briefly to prepare for a survey of possible Stone Age village sites in the eastern desert region later this year, the Department of Antiquities decided to invite the Mesoamerican specialists to Jordan to analyse the material.

The finds include seven stone tablets, all of which have similar engravings; about 300 pottery

sherds, including four large pieces ranging in size from four to 13 centimetres, on which the painted faces can be clearly seen; traces of what appear to have been bone artifacts, though only a cream coloured powdery material remains, and this is being analysed now at the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford, England; 17 rough stone beads with holes in them, apparently old pieces of jewellery; and assorted pieces of small stone, blade-like implements that may have been used for hunting or possibly as tools to work leather or for carving.

The great mystery is: If these are, indeed, Mesoamerican artifacts, how did they find their way to Jordan? Mr. Juan Valesquez of the University of the Americas, in his preliminary report on the finds, has ruled out the possibility of South American Indians having travelled by boat and land to the Middle East. "We know that maritime voyages by Mesoamerican Indians of the Tehuacan Valley, Mexico, started to take place around 9000 BC to nearby coastal areas of Central America, but long sea voyages further afield did not become possible for them until well into the 1st Millennium AD," he concluded.

Two other possibilities are being studied: Either the Mesoamerican artifacts were transmitted to south Jordan by a very long and complex chain of traders who made contact with the Western Hemisphere via Northern Europe or the South Atlantic; or some Middle Eastern people may have made long sea journeys that put them in contact with Mesoamericans or with other people, such as West Africans, who traded with the Indians of the Western Hemisphere.

Both theories are hard for Jordanian archaeologists to accept readily. Yet the evidence is there. Mr. Sloan Grambling, the University of Arizona expert on early American Indian life who was asked to analyse the new finds with Mr. Valesquez, suggests that one possibility may have been that south Jordanian residents of the early Iron Age could have come into contact with American Indians indirectly via the seafaring adventures of the Phoenicians, whose base was in nearby Lebanon.

An even more exciting if distant possibility is that some early Jordanians may have joined Phoenician ships at the south Jordan port of Ezion Geber (present day Aqaba), made direct or indirect contact with Mesoamerican Indians and returned home with a bagful of traded objects to prove it.

The excavated site (which has not been even firmly named, though it is being called Tell 'Ajayeb for the time being, using the local bedouin name for the area) is thought to contain much more material. It has been sealed for now, and its precise location is not being revealed for the time being, to keep it safe from would-be poachers. The Department of Antiquities hopes to fully excavate it someday, when arrangements can be made with the railway and the phosphate company to halt — or slightly divert the route of — the phosphate railway.

The small area that was excavated recently indicates a typical early Iron Age fortress with two corner towers, covering an area of at least 350 square metres. The full extent of the site will only be known when the area underneath the railway is excavated.

Jordan, Oman discuss educational cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — Talks on education were held Thursday between a Jordanian delegation headed by Education Minister Sa'id Tal and an Omani delegation headed by Education and Youth Affairs Minister Yahya Mahfouz Al Munziri.

During the meeting, the two delegations discussed several issues related to the educational programme which will be signed between the two countries soon.

Dr. Tal said the Jordanian Education Ministry is always prepared to render every assistance to Oman in the educational field and that Jordan is always eager to strengthen and develop relations with Oman.

The Omani minister said cooperation between the two countries on education has developed recently, and expressed his thanks to the Jordanian Education Ministry and universities for the valuable assistance they rendered to Oman in various educational fields.

World Bank delegation leaves Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — The World Bank delegation left Amman Thursday after completing its mission of collecting the necessary information to prepare the study requested by the National Planning Council (NPC) on assessing the educational and vocational training systems and basic work standards in the industrial field.

Pravda rejects arms proposal

(Continued from page 1)

The new Reagan plan showed that the president had given up hope of deploying all his new missiles in Western Europe in one go and was planning to do it in stages, Pravda added.

However, Pravda warned the United States that Moscow could not tolerate the stationing of any of the Pershing or cruise missiles.

"Even one American medium-range missile deployed in Western Europe would be nothing less than a violation of the strategic balance between the USSR and USA, a violation of the principle of equality and equal security," it said. Western diplomats in Moscow predicted that Mr. Gromyko would dismiss the new Reagan proposal as nothing more than a refined version of the zero option and refuse to consider it as a basis for negotiation.

But they expected the foreign minister to phrase his response carefully and to stress that Moscow was still eager to continue talks in Geneva and seek some kind of solution.

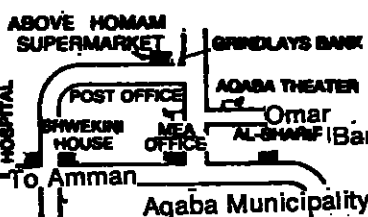
A series of Soviet press commentaries in the past two days has also indicated that this is likely to be the case. While attacking the Reagan offer, none of the commentaries has suggested that it undermines the basis for continuing the Euro-missile talks.

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HOME NEWS

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hassan to open quality control seminar

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan will open on April 10 the seminar on the quality control of construction materials, which will be held at the Professional Associations Complex, Al Ra'i newspaper reported Friday. The paper said that several Arab delegations will participate in the seminar.

Pakistani team arrives in Amman today

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation of high-ranking Pakistani government employees will arrive in Amman Saturday for a five-day visit to Jordan. During the visit, the 17-member delegation will meet with Labour Ministry Under-Secretary Taysir Abdul Jabbar, who will brief them on Jordan's experiment in development planning. The delegation will also meet other Jordanian officials, and visit several government institutions and tourist sites in the country.

Ministry to scrutinise imported drugs

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Finance and Customs Salem Masa'deh has instructed all customs centres in the country to abide by the Health Ministry instructions not to clear from customs any medicines or drugs before examining samples of them at the medicines control laboratory. The Health Ministry issued its instructions to this effect in early March.



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Top Irish tenor: A challenge to Pavarotti?

By Margi Bryant
Special to the Jordan Times

When Frank Patterson was four years old and turned up for his first day at school in Clonmel, County Tipperary, his teacher asked him what he wanted to do when he grew up. "I want to be a singer," he said, and to prove it stood on the table and sang a particularly difficult Irish song from start to finish.

Frank Patterson, now a world-class tenor, has been singing ever since. His recitals this Saturday and Sunday nights at the Royal Cultural Centre mark his first appearance in the Middle East, but he is no stranger to the concert stage in Europe, the United States, Canada and most recently Australia, as well as his native Ireland. He is appearing here as part of the European Community Spring Festival, at the particular request of the EEC delegate, fellow-Irishman Tom O'Sullivan.

The songs Frank Patterson has selected for Amman reflect not only the classical, popular and folk traditions of Europe, but also the stress he places on audience-appeal. He will sing well-known classical favourites by Purcell, Handel, Mozart and Schubert, light opera arias from Gilbert and Sullivan, English ballads and "drawing-room" pieces, and traditional Irish songs in the Gaelic language. He is accompanied on the piano—and on the Irish harp in

the Gaelic songs—by his wife, Eily O'Grady.

A New York critic has called Patterson "one of the world's greatest ballad singers" and other critics have likened him to the great Irish tenor of earlier this century, John McCormack. But Patterson says he has not consciously modelled himself on McCormack, and in fact his scope is much wider. He is a well-established name in oratorio, notably as the Evangelist in Bach's St. Matthew Passion and St. John Passion.

Patterson developed his equal love of classical and popular music early on. His parents were founder-members of the local choral society in Clonmel, "but my mother was always singing traditional Irish songs around the house," he says.

He left school at the age of 14 and learnt to be a compositor in the family printing business, though he kept on singing and won a first prize as a boy soprano in the Feis Ceoil, Ireland's national music festival, when he was 15. Amazingly, in the very same week he sang his first small solo spot as a tenor with his newly-broken voice.

Patterson decided to opt for a career in singing when he was 19 and went to Dublin to study. Two years later he walked off with all the top awards at the 1964 Feis Ceoil. He was then recruited by an American impresario to do a tour of the U.S., singing the Irish tra-

ditional songs of his childhood. His accompanist on the tour was Eily O'Grady.

"My style was terribly stiff—I used to sing these popular songs as though they were oratorio pieces, with my hands clasped in front of me," he recalls. "Eily taught me to loosen up, how to stand, how to use my hands." At the end of the tour they married and now have a five-year-old son, Eamon, who goes with them on many of their world-wide trips.

Patterson has made 22 long playing records, several of them with top conductor Colin Davis. His most recent record is being sold worldwide by direct order from television networks, and has already sold 100,000 copies in the United States alone. The market predictions are that it will eventually sell a million copies, which would make it the biggest-selling long playing record in the world.

Patterson talks with unashamed enthusiasm about his commercial success, which he sees as proof that people enjoy his music. "People shouldn't be categorised as potential markets for either classical or popular music," he says. "There's a vast audience throughout the world for a singer who has real popular appeal."

The extent of popular interest in singing has been demonstrated recently by the huge success of Italian tenor Luciano Pavarotti. Patterson's recent visit to Australia came hard on the heels of a visit by Pavarotti—but the Australians still flocked to hear Patterson.

"I'm a different kind of singer, and there's plenty of room for both of us," says Patterson, "but I don't mind seeing myself as a challenge to Pavarotti. After all, his records only sell a quarter of a million copies," he adds with a grin.



Frank Patterson and Eily O'Grady

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Malhas urges WHO to probe Jenin poisoning

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Zuhair Malhas has called on the director-general of the World Health Organisation (WHO) to dispatch a specialised committee to investigate the reasons for the recent mass poisoning of Arab school girls in the town of Jenin in the occupied West Bank.

Dr. Malhas also sent a similar cable to the president of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Thursday appealing for immediate intervention to stop the inhumanitarian practices against the West Bank inhabitants.

Meanwhile, President of the National Committee of Jordanian Red Crescent (NCJRC) Ahmad Abu Qourah said he had received a cable from ICRC president saying that hospitals in the Jenin area were able to cope with all victims of the mass poisoning. The cable said the reasons for the poisoning "are still mysterious" and that investigation of the poisoning is not part of the committee functions under the current circumstances.

Representatives of the committee visited the site of the incident several times as well as the hospitals where the patients were being treated, the cable said. The cable added that sending a medical team to the site of the incident at present does not seem to be an urgent matter and that investigation is underway to determine the causes of the disease.

However, Dr. Abu Qourah said that he will send another cable to the ICRC president urging him to expedite the dispatch of a medical

team to investigate the mass poisoning in the Jenin area and other areas of the West Bank. Dr. Abu Qourah's first request for an ICRC medical team to investigate the phenomenon was made in a cable to the ICRC president on March 28.

Dr. Malhas, meanwhile, briefed the WHO fact-finding committee of experts here on Thursday on the deteriorating health conditions of the Arab residents of the occupied territories as well as Israel's attempts to reduce health services to them to force them to seek medical treatment in Israeli hospitals or in the hospitals of neighbouring Arab countries.

The health ministry had presented to the committee a full report on the health conditions in the West Bank. The report said that health services in the West Bank have not been developing since 1967, that West Bank hospitals lack hospital beds, specialised clinical treatment, intensive care units, and modern equipment for the diagnosis of diseases.

The meeting was attended by President of the Palestine Red Crescent Society Fathi Arafat, the Health Ministry under-secretary and heads of departments at the ministry.

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CORRECTION
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The advertisement appeared in the Jordan Times, page 6 on March 31, 1983 the subtitle should read as "Training" instead of "Experimental".

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Reagan pulls a fast one

TAKEN at face value, the latest U.S. offer for an interim agreement at the American-Soviet "Euromissile" talks in Geneva seems to be no more than a new American publicity stunt. The U.S. president himself may have suggested this when he briefed reporters after announcing his new proposal in Los Angeles on Wednesday. "We have not done the best in years past at matching our adversaries in propaganda," he said. "We have got something to sell and we had better sell it."

No wonder that the Soviet media made capital, perhaps contrary to socialist principles, on what the president had to say, immediately branding the move as aimed at "blowing dust in people's eyes."

But, since things should not always be taken at face value, particularly those superpower proposals and counterproposals on disarmament or the lack of it, and because it is up to the Soviet leadership to take or leave President Reagan's offer, we shall assume that by announcing its new proposal the U.S. is indeed interested in pursuing negotiations for limiting American-Soviet arsenals of nuclear and other weapons.

Western European countries, such as Britain and West Germany, do stand to lose the most from stationing Pershing II, Cruise and SS-20 missiles on and near their territories, and President Reagan's latest offer may have promised a better deal for them. However, the real threat, not only to Europe but also to mankind, would not simply disappear by propaganda campaigns or half-measure proposals on either the Soviet or the American side.

President Reagan is no more entitled than Europe's peace campaigners to make peace proposals, and the Soviet Union is not in a better position than European governments to know about European security. Each side must be taken seriously, and those who have the power must not abuse it.

Leaders and politicians on all sides can play their political games among themselves if they so wish. But peoples of the world are and will remain entitled to live in peace, away from superpowers friction and rivalry.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: U.S. ability and willingness

A decision assessing the Jordanian-Palestinian stance towards the American summit for taking part in negotiations based on President Reagan's initiative for the Middle East, is being eagerly expected by the masses of the people. The arrival of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat in Amman has a lot to do with this question.

It is only good to bring back to the minds that acceptance to join such negotiations necessitates some guarantee by the U.S. administration to implement its peace proposals, as negotiations in themselves are meaningless unless they are to lead to the solution of the region's conflict.

Israel should be made to give up its negative stand towards the initiative, as without that the call upon the Jordanians and Palestinians to accept to sit to the negotiating table would be stark blackmail. Moreover, Israel should stop all practices and moves based on considering the West Bank and Gaza part of the Israeli state, and which treat the Palestinians as a foreign minority living on Israeli land. The Palestinian people should be understood to have national rights that should be acknowledged.

Nonetheless, the U.S. should prove its ability and willingness to stand up to its international responsibilities, particularly with regard to the Lebanese problem. The time element should also be taken into account, as the Lebanese example does not seem so encouraging in this concern. It is for the U.S. administration to show Arabs that peace can be achieved through U.S. efforts.

Al Dstour: A clear Arab vision

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan stated in an interview with the Austrian T.V. that any pressure to be exerted on Jordan to take part in a political process for the Middle East conflict without an Israeli commitment to halt settlement practices will simply mean an invitation to Jordan to commit political and economic suicide. Jordan has invariably stood and called for a just peaceful settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict, but the manipulation of a peace process to cover up for hegemonistic and annexationist lust, as done by Israel, can never work out. Any peaceful settlement should guarantee the end to Israeli occupation of the Arab territories, and the rights of the Palestinian people as well.

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat's talks and consultations with His Majesty King Hussein, following the Arab League peace committee visits to world capitals, should result in a clear-cut stand on coordination efforts, and in an assessment of a joint stance regarding the occupied Arab territories facing imminent annexation.

The current talks in Amman should come out with a clear Arab, Jordanian and Palestinian in the first place, vision of what the coming steps should be and how to deal with rapidly-moving developments.

Sawt Al Shaab: Time loss means new facts

The last statement by the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee following the meeting that preceded the Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting in Algiers stated that the two peoples face the same threats and are united by the same sufferings and aspirations. The cohesion of their role is the cornerstone of any Arab effort for peace in the Middle East.

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat's current visit to Jordan, and his consultations with Jordanian senior officials must outline the future joint moves for facing Israeli plans and threats. The liberation of the occupied Arab territories and foiling Israeli annexationist plans in due time should be the main directive that characterises the consultations and their outcome.

It is not sufficient to have taken decisions, but finding ways for implementing them is a major issue at the present stage. Israel is increasingly intensifying its expropriation of Palestinian land, and seems persistent in driving as many Arabs as possible in the shortest time out of the occupied territories in order to turn their residents into a minority that can be easily absorbed in Zionist schemes.

Time should be made use of as its loss means new facts created by Israel.

VIEW FROM AMERICA

In for a rough time

AMMAN — Something has happened to change the course of U.S. foreign policy. No big announcement from Washington has said so, but little signs add up to this conclusion.

As in many countries, foreign policy changes are often announced through a change in foreign minister. So far there are no signs that Secretary of State George Shultz may resign, but the policy approach he advocated since he took office last July have suffered severe setbacks. Shultz was a dean of a university, then became a high minister of economic affairs in the Nixon administration, and then became president of the Bechtel corporation. He is a man who believes in negotiations. The man whom he replaced, Alexander Haig, was a general who believed in power, not talk. Haig believed in applying force in the Middle East and in Central America. Shultz believed in giving negotiations a chance. Last summer, President Reagan apparently agreed. He fired Haig

who was too arrogant, anyway, and appointed the mild-mannered Shultz.

Shultz openly set himself one great task. The U.S. was going to try, through negotiations, to work out a plan for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. And then the U.S., using the Reagan peace plan put forward last September, was going to try and resolve the Palestinian question giving the Palestinians at least something like a "homeland" in Palestine.

But apparently Shultz also, secretly, gave himself the task of seeking a negotiated solution to the El Salvador conflict. The U.S. worked hard to weaken the strength of the ultra-right forces in El Salvador and build up the power of the "centrist" government. And quietly informal talks began with rebel exile leaders in Mexico City. Apparently the Salvadoran president made a quick and secret flight to Mexico City to talk to a top rebel

leader there. In late February, rumours circulated in Washington that Shultz's top assistant for Latin American affairs, Thomas Enders, was preparing to go public with a negotiating plan. And suddenly, a counter-coup took place from the right-wing of the Reagan administration. The El Salvador issue was taken out of Enders' hands and squarely under the control of the White House. And during the Queen of England's visit to San Francisco, Reagan ruled out any negotiations with the rebels and hinted the U.S. might even be forced to intervene militarily.

If the negotiation path has failed in Central America, the failure is even more evident in the Middle East. The Israelis suddenly seem confident that their star is again rising in Washington. They are tightening their grip on Lebanon and even more brazenly than ever asserting their control over the West Bank. Saudi Arabia, with the crumbling of OPEC, looks

like a paper tiger. With talk of another offensive by Iran, the prospect is for even more instability in the Gulf. And that has provoked the U.S. into accelerating its build-up of a Rapid Deployment Force. The recent sabre-rattling against Libya is reminiscent of the Haig days, and indeed, Haig has made a few public statements recently implying his policies have now been vindicated.

The U.S. public is strongly opposed to any new military involvement abroad. It is thus difficult to see how the Reagan administration could send U.S. forces to El Salvador without provoking a public outcry. Yet the U.S. is also entering a period of economic recovery which could last into 1984 and help re-elect Reagan. So it is possible Reagan's advisers may believe they could risk some forceful moves now, and get away with it by election time. There is one basic principle of politics everywhere in the world... if something works,

public will support it. Prime Minister Thatcher took a risk in fighting the Falklands-Malvinas war, but she won and got enormous popular support for it.

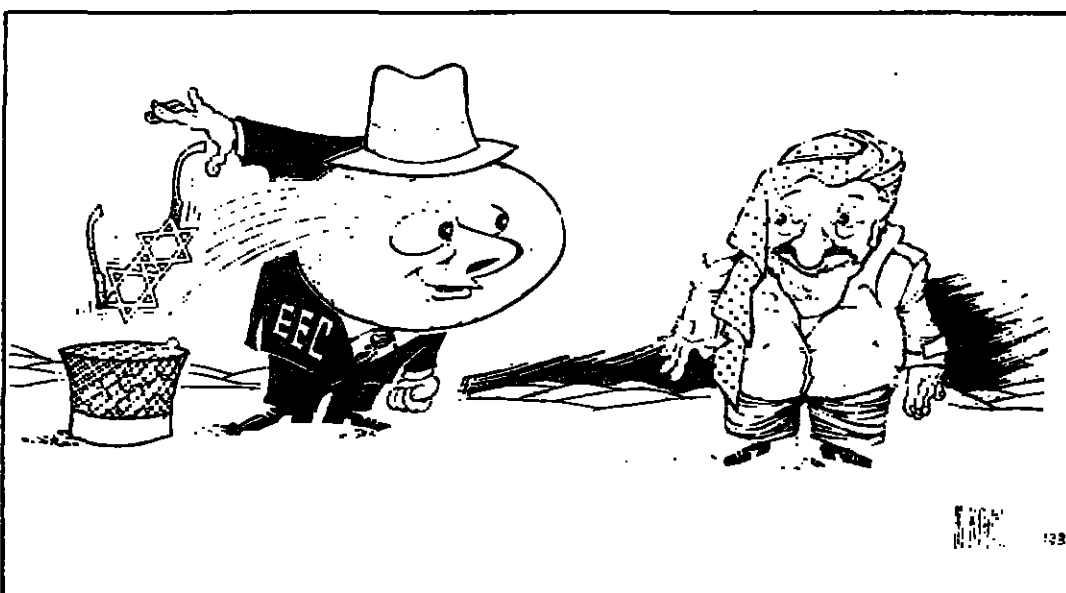
When 1983 began, it seemed as if the various negotiations going on... U.S.-USSR arms control, for a settlement in southern Africa, for a Mideast settlement, for ending the El Salvador conflict... had reasonable chances of producing results. Now the chances for any decent results have gone way down. Talk is out, and force is back in.

If the U.S. has shifted back to Haig's policies, then that is bad news for any U.S.-PLO rapprochement, even as it is good news for the Israelis. It could also mean U.S. pressure for an expanded military presence in the Middle East to encounter "Soviet expansionism," which may be a code word for Iranian expansionism. And it could mean that U.S. forces, probably naval, will start moving into the

off-shore waters of Nicaragua, Honduras, and El Salvador. Direct U.S. air action to aid government forces in El Salvador and, possibly even against Nicaragua, are possible. Washington could insist that such air and naval actions would not involve U.S. troops on the ground as in Vietnam. Obviously, if such action occurred in Central America, it could be a precedent for like action elsewhere.

Negotiations failed because in the end Washington was too weak to make them work, and the antagonisms between the contending parties too great. And its economic power failed when its powerful economic partner, Saudi Arabia, was unable to keep OPEC going. And, of course, the U.S. made the Saudis weak by not being able to crack down on Israel.

We are in for a rough time until after much blood and suffering it, again, becomes apparent power too will not be able to resolve conflicts.



The latest attempt to solve centuries-old Irish question

By Colin McIntyre

Reuter

DUBLIN — To some, it is the most significant development in Irish affairs since the partitioning of the country in 1922. To others, it is part of an international conspiracy and a declaration of war on the Protestant majority in British-ruled Northern Ireland.

These were two extreme reactions to the Dublin government's recent announcement that an all-Ireland forum would be set up to work out a blueprint for a new united Ireland. Between the extremes, a large body of opinion is wondering whether, in view of the vehement opposition of northern Protestants, this latest attempt to solve the centuries-old Irish question would be much more than an empty talking shop.

The idea was launched in a statement on March 11 that the government proposed to arrange for the establishment of a forum "for consultations on the manner in which lasting peace and stability can be achieved in a new Ireland through the democratic process." Participation in the new body would be open to all democratic parties, northern or southern, which rejected violence.

That would automatically exclude Sinn Fein, which supports the Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerrilla organisation fighting to end British rule in the north. The statement closely followed a similar proposal by the leader to Northern Ireland's Catholic Social Democratic and Labour Party, John Hume, who had called for a "council for a new Ireland."

Mr. Hume's proposal was quickly supported by Irish opposition leader Charles Haughey, but the coalition government headed by Garret Fitzgerald reacted cautiously at first. It thus came as some surprise when the government made a proposal borrowing heavily from Mr. Hume, and with Mr. Haughey's support. While northern politicians saw this as a victory for Mr. Haughey, the opposite seems to have been the case.

The opposition leader has consistently argued that Britain must announce its withdrawal from Northern Ireland before any talks on Ireland's future could begin. The forum proposal was immediately branded a farce and an international conspiracy against northern Protestants by the Reverend Ian Paisley, leader of the militantly pro-British Democratic Unionist Party in Northern Ireland.

Eventual fading out

Mr. Paisley, a Protestant min-

ister, also attacked a statement by Irish Foreign Minister Peter Barry, on the same day as the forum proposal, which suggested an "eventual fading out" of British involvement in Northern Ireland.

Interpreting this as an attack on the one-billion-strong Protestant majority in Northern Ireland, which also contains 500,000 Catholics, Mr. Paisley said: "He has declared war on us, but we will resist to the very death."

The British government gave a non-committal response to the forum idea, saying it was up to the people of Northern Ireland to decide if they wanted to participate. But the discussions could not affect the fundamental position that Northern Ireland would remain a part of the United Kingdom while the majority of its people so wished, the British government added.

In an interview with an Irish newspaper, Britain's Northern Ireland Secretary, James Prior, said he could not see anything useful developing out of the forum. His deputy, Lord Gower, described Irish reunification as "a very fantastic and improbable idea," though he did say political progress in the north should be pursued in a "triangular" framework involving London, Dublin and Belfast.

But the forum received strong support in the United States, where a group of congressmen and senators led by Senator Edward Kennedy tabled a resolution to end the conflict in the north and achieve Irish unity. The resolution said the forum could turn out to be one of the most helpful developments in recent years.

Many people in the north, and some in the republic, see the forum mainly as a "lifeline" to boost Mr. Hume's Social Democratic and Labour Party as, with general elections looming, it faces growing competition from the pro-IRA Sinn Fein for the Catholic republican vote in the north.

Sinn Fein stunned northern politicians last October by winning five seats in elections for the Northern Ireland assembly, shattering the myth that parties linked with guerrilla violence had only marginal support. Last week a Sinn Fein candidate stood in a district council election in Carrickmore, Northern Ireland, and won by a landslide to become the first Sinn Fein councillor for nearly 60 years.

Those favouring the "lifeline" theory argue that the Social Democratic and Labour Party, which like Sinn Fein boycotts the assembly because it fails to provide a role for the Dublin government,

will be able to hold up the forum as an example that constitutional politics bring more results than the gun.

Supporters of the forum agree that it faces huge problems trying to reconcile the two traditions in north and south, and overcoming public apathy on the northern question in the Irish Republic. As the London Guardian newspaper said in an editorial: "They all say Ireland can be united only in such a way that the Protestants do not have to sacrifice their traditions. Yet their most important tradition is that they remain part of the United Kingdom."

But Mr. Hume does not feel that the implacable opposition of Protestant leaders in the north will make the forum a pointless exercise. In a recent newspaper interview, he said that following his own call for an Irish council he had received more letters from Protestants on that than on any other issue, from people "who really want to know what sort of Ireland is on offer."

Mixed apprehension and optimism on the Falklands

By Patrick Watts
Reuter

PORT STANLEY — A year after Argentina seized the Falkland Islands, the mood among the 1,800 sheep-farming inhabitants of the British South Atlantic colony is mixed with optimism and apprehension for the future. More than 30 islanders have reluctantly quit to live in Britain since the islands were recaptured from Argentina by British forces in June last year.

Although more than 500 eager emigrants are waiting in Britain for permission to make the 8,000-mile journey to a new life here, the war-battered Falklands cannot offer them jobs. A six-year economic rejuvenation being promoted by the British government with a planned £31 million (\$45 million) investment shows little sign of taking off.

In Port Stanley, 54 new houses are being built but contracts for the islands' first proper roads have yet to be awarded and the capital's streets are still being repaired. Argentina seized the long-claimed Falklands a year ago on April 2 and they were retaken by British forces on June 14. Argentina has not formally declared an end to hostilities and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, although under international pressure to negotiate, says Britain will not cede the colony against the wishes of its people.

Port Stanley residents have vivid, sometimes traumatic memories of those gripping hours when thousands of Argentine soldiers entered the tiny capital.

Resettlement

A year later, many islanders say privately that Britain will have to

enter talks with Argentina some time and envisage they or their children being resettled in Britain. The approaching British general election, due by May next year, is therefore being watched with keen interest. If the opposition Labour party won power, according to islander Stewart Wallace, it "will talk leaseback with Argentina like a shot."

Lenseback is the proposal, firmly rejected by the islanders, that Britain should cede sovereignty to Argentina in return for a very long lease of up to 99 years. It damaged morale when Don and Margaret Davidson, who settled here in the 1960s, reluctantly decided to return to Britain as they saw no future in the colony for their three children, all born here.

"I don't believe this place is going to change," said Margaret, a 34-year-old horticultural expert. "It is going to remain a go-slow, colonial regime — a manipulated, small, dying population." The move was taken here as a sad omen as the Davidsons, who built up a market garden and guesthouse, were seen as prime settlers, hard-working and intelligent.

But the Falkland Islands government warns that emigration can mislead, commenting that 55 islanders trapped in Britain by the war have returned. "There is a great feeling of optimism," a spokesman said. "But we are talking about years rather than months. You can't turn a sheep farming island of 1,800 people into a booming Hong Kong overnight. I don't see immigrants before September."

In fact one migrant family has arrived — Mike and Julie Wilton and their seven-year-old daughter Victoria, who plan to take over a fast-food business in Port Stanley.

New airport
There are plans to build a new

airport and strengthen the island's primitive infrastructure, pushing out the first road and expanding the Port Stanley water and power system. Ideas being studied to diversify the economy away from its 600,000 sheep include developing fishing and harvesting the plentiful kelp seaweed, but the sag is economic viability.

The government has bought a huge farm to break into 3,000 sheep units, part of projected reform of the system of company farms run by managers. But there are fears this will cost jobs. "What frightens me is the risk of unemployment in the farming sector," said Terry Peck, a prominent member of the island council. Those planning to buy new small farms say they will try to farm them alone.

The islands look different since the war, which left 1,000 British and Argentine dead. The 4,000-strong garrison is defending what Mrs. Thatcher calls "Fortress Falklands."

A troubled Harrier jet fighter this week crashed into the harbour, the pilot ejecting safely. Yet the islanders' traditional slow, simple lifestyle has so far survived surprisingly little altered. With a few grumbles the "kelpers" or native islanders have learned to live with the garrison. At Port Howard sheep farm, manager Robin Lee politely asked the army to leave the settlement to return to its traditional life and the soldiers moved their positions away from the community.

Much of the treeless main island has been cleared of mines and of 59 booby traps rigged by retreating Argentine soldiers. A benefit the army brought is a military surgeon. Before the war, very sick islanders often had to be flown 600 km to Argentina for treatment.

LETTERS

The Irish and the English

To the Editor

I have recently arrived in Jordan from the United Kingdom and would like to comment on your feature on U.K.-Irish relations by Bette O'Connor on Reuter (Jordan Times, March 22) which, according to a representative of The Irish in Britain Representation Group, infers that the Irish generally in the U.K. are subject to cheap racism.

This bigoted and narrow minded view-point is another example of cheap propaganda being disseminated by Ireland's terrorist organisation — the I.R.A.

The very suggestion in the article that a joke involving or concerning a person of whatever race, creed or colour can be interpreted as another form of racism is, in itself, a joke and of very bad taste at that. Should the time come that the people of this earth cannot tolerate the funny side of their lives — and let us admit we all have our failings — then it will be a sad day for civilisation. We must all learn to live together and accept that the world-wide joke is simply another means of communication with, invariably, a smile resulting at the end of it.

It is absolutely not true that the Irish in the U.K. are a suspected group as a whole because of the activities of a few cowardly murderers. Jordan itself is graced with having an Irish work-force employed by your national airline. These girls, who contribute in no small part to the prestige earned by the airline, do not feel they are targets for the cheap racism referred to, I am sure.

The Irish have lived peacefully in Britain for a very long time, through hard and bitter times and it is a sad day to read such an article as published. They will continue to live and work in Britain; they will continue to contribute by means of brawn and brain to the country's economy, commerce and welfare and, thankfully, continue to laugh at their own jokes and cheerfully reciprocate by "telling the one about the Englishman, Scotsman, the Arab and the Jew". Incidentally, the finest Jewish jokes in the world are told best — by Jews themselves. Could we call this self-inflicted racism?

James Whelan

Amman

'You cannot imagine how those daily battles wear you out'



Salwa El Taher

I met Yasmine for the first time three years ago. The students of history and archaeology at the university were planning a talent show and were at a loss for talents. She was a real find. Not only could she play the role she auditioned for, she could sing some of Feirouz's songs as well. She had a

heavenly voice, and the looks to go with it. Slender, rather petite, her raven-black hair fell gracefully over her shoulders. She wore no make-up, and her regular, delicate features were animated by an inner glow. She was sensitive, helpful, friendly, and constantly bubbling.

As it turned out, she saved the day-and the show. She never seemed to run out of energy. Immediately the show was over, she offered to help with plans to start a new historical society.

"Tell me," I asked her, watching her enlisting members and explaining the rules, "if you can do all this while still a student, what will you do when turned loose on the world?"

"You never know!" she sang back to me.

"Will you register for a masters degree?"

"Of course you know how much I love archaeology. I have even chosen the topic of my thesis."

"Oh, you mean finding the gold of the gods?" I teased her, referring to a dig she had joined that had unearthed some of that precious metal.

"Nothing as lucrative, I hate to tell you. The religious beliefs of the Nabateans is what I want to explore."

"But there is hardly any material on the subject," I protested.

"I'll manage," she retorted confidently. And I could tell she was drawn by the all-too-familiar fascination for the unexplored.

We both went our different ways for a while, but I heard that Yasmine graduated with high honours. When I saw her next, she was working at the Centre for Archaeological Research as well as studying for her masters degree. She looked strained and tired.

"Can you manage both your work and your studies?" I asked her, worried.

"Of course I can. I won't be the first one to do it."

"But do you have to?"

"I need to," was her unexpected reply. Yasmine came from a long-established, well-to-do family. I have to work in order to obtain a certain measure of freedom, some leeway," she explained.

"But you're still a student, you'll be independent in two years' time if you only give yourself a chance."

"I'm not speaking of that kind of independence. I just want to be able to circulate a bit on my own. You see, I come from a very restrictive background."

"No one would have guessed that from watching you."

"I know. No-one knows what I have to go through. No-one knows I have to fight every step of the way. Have you ever seen me join a university trip or party?"

And yet, I still have clashes with my family. You remember when I took part in the talent show?"

"Of course I do."

"Well I had put up with so much afterwards that I decided never to go on stage again."

What a shame, Yasmine, with your kind of talent..."

"But it was only appearing on stage I had to give up. I wouldn't mind so much. My whole life is involved. The fighting, the bickering make me unable to work or to concentrate on anything. Why ever did they send me to university in the first place?" She paused, not expecting an answer, and her eyes grew darker and her look resentful.

"I took this job in order to have some time of my own, away from home, where I would not have to account for every minute of my life. But there's nothing doing. I constantly have to defend my job, to put up with incredulous remarks and suspicious looks. If I'm ever late coming home, it's an inquisition I have to face. I feel so trapped I think I'll suffocate."

"You know why they're so frantic, Yasmine. I tried to placate her. "This is the way they have been brought up. You're so different from anything they've ever known, you scare them. But they always respected academic achievements. Why don't you try to get one of the overseas sch-

olarships offered by your Centre?"

But my family would never consent to my going," she objected, already contemplating the possibility.

"I have known you to exercise amazing powers of persuasion at times."

"I guess so, she finally smiled. May be I'm not trying hard enough," she added in a more resolute tone.

After this conversation, I lost track of Yasmine for a little over a year. When I saw her again, it was by chance, in a small shop in Jabal Amman. She was wearing dark clothes, and looked thinner and paler than usual.

"Hi! How are you? Fancy seeing you here..." I cried, pleasantly surprised. "What are you doing?"

"Roaming around," she answered, "picking up a few dresses. I'm getting married in three months."

"Oh... Congratulations," I answered, now noticing the ring on the finger of the hand which feverishly went through the clothes. Was she ill?

"Yasmine... why the dark clothes?"

She suddenly turned away and started to walk freely in the shop. "My brother... he died three months ago."

"Oh, my God! Yasmine, what happened?"

"His heart condition. We thought he was cured, but he obviously wasn't."

I was horror-struck. My stomach tightened as I remembered how close she had been to him.

"Listen, why don't you come for a cup of coffee? You can always shop later."

Yasmine came for coffee and stayed for lunch. She had a lot to tell me, for as it turned out, she had gone on a scholarship to France after all. It had been a wonderful experience. She forgot her grief for a moment as she recalled her year abroad.

"It was so wonderful," she explained, her eyes shining and her cheeks flushed. For the first time in my life I was a whole person, someone in my own right, not as some one's daughter, sister or relative. I was able to be me."

"Then why didn't you stay on?"

"Because the scholarship ended and I had to come back. But I was determined to return to France. I even had the money ready. Then it all happened."

"What? Your brother's death?"

"Yes. And my engagement."

"But what do they have to do with each other?"

"Well, we were all so shaken... My parents were crushed. And when Anis proposed, they beseeched me to accept. I couldn't

very well add to their sorrow by refusing, could I?"

"But who is Anis? I asked evading her question which was, I could tell, only rhetorical."

"A friend of the family. He works in one of the Gulf states."

"Do you at least like the man?"

"I have only known him a month. In all fairness, I haven't got much feeling left for anyone at this stage. I'm emotionally exhausted. But he puts me at ease. If I put my mind to it, I can make the marriage work. I don't see why it shouldn't."

There was a pause. Then I asked her:

"But what about your master's thesis?"

"Oh, that will have to wait. She spoke with an indifference which chilled me. There is no university where I'm going, so why frustrate myself? So many women suffer senselessly because of dreams they cannot pursue. I don't want to be one of them."

I was careful not to ask her if she considered her year abroad as wasted.

"On the other hand," she went on in an upsurge of optimism, "marriage can be my way out. It will set me free from my family. By having my own home I'm bound to have my own identity."

Again, I hesitated to debate the point with her. It was obviously

too late to go into the possible complications or limitations of matrimonial bonds. But I couldn't keep quiet much longer. I finally almost blew up at her:

"Yasmine, did you ever really stand up to your family? After all, you're not such a helpless little thing, you have had the benefit of a university education. Why didn't you protest when they claimed to rule your life, why didn't you insist on what was rightfully yours?"

"I did fight a great deal at first," she said, looking away. "Then my energy wore out. You cannot imagine how much those daily battles can wear you out. Then I started getting afraid. At first, I was hostile to my environment. Now it overwhelms me. When something is that much stronger than you, it is wiser to submit." Yasmine's new, subdued look had a certain softness. It even had something which, had I not known her better, I would have mistaken for serenity. But in her eyes, there was no trace of the old fire, and her smile was only a shadow of what it used to be.

All of a sudden, we had nothing to say to each other. I leaned my head against the back of my chair. The vegetables I had bought that morning had been picked before ripening, and in pre-Islamic Arabia people used to bury their new-born daughters alive.

Met men say weather forecasting is no joke

By Gamini Akmeemana
Special to the Jordan Times

In the old days, vagaries of the weather were blamed on the Higher Powers. Today, the criticism is usually directed at the local meteorological department. Forever the butt of jokes made by laymen, the weatherman is a universal phenomenon who apparently knows the secrets of the four winds, and an infinitely patient person who must remain philosophical about the opinions his fellow human beings hold about his work.

Last winter, however, not one but several depressions occurred all over the world, and Jordan was one of the many countries to suffer as a result. For once, people started taking the weather forecasts seriously. Slipping and skidding all over the place, many no doubt hoped that the usually gloomy forecasts would turn out to be wrong; but they almost always turned out to be right, to the dismay of those affected profoundly by this winter of more than usual discontent.

"The weather will be clear for the next forty-eight hours," Dr. Ali Abandah, Director-General of the National Meteorological Department, said confidently during an interview with the Jordan Times on Thursday morning. There was some ground for this optimism as far as one could see; the sky was unbelievably blue, and the silver-bodied aircraft parked behind the Amman Airport terminal just opposite Dr. Abandah's office were glinting in the hot sunlight. But what about Friday and Saturday? Sure enough, the weather was clear until Saturday, as the limit of the forecast expired.

A forecast of 48 hours is as far as the department is ready to go. Predicting the future beyond that is a risky business.

Weather forecasters, by nature, avoid taking risks. There is no crystal ball through which you can see the future, weatherwise. The department must rely on barometers and other equipment to let you know if you might be needing your umbrella tomorrow afternoon.

The new technique of long-range forecasting uses computers to try to predict the weather two to four weeks ahead. But, says Dr. Abandah, this has not proved very successful so far, though constant improvements are being made. "We don't have this in Jordan yet," Dr. Abandah says, though adding that Jordan will be getting a mini-computer later this year to facilitate the work of the department's forecasters.

The department employs about 300 people, of whom roughly two-thirds are directly involved in the process of weather-forecasting. Of these, about 50 are specialists, university graduates in physics and related sciences. About 100 are observers, people with secondary-school education who have done a specialised course in weather forecasting. Then there are 50 technicians and telecommunications experts.

The latter are needed because there are no less than 10,000 weather stations in North Africa, the Middle East and Europe alone; links between these stations must be maintained 24 hours a day. Jordan now has 40 stations, with four additions planned by 1985. One, west of Sweileh, is already under construction.

This station is badly-needed because there is such a great difference between rainfall in that

area and in Amman. The station at Amman airport normally records 270 millimetres of rain a year, whereas annual rainfall west of Amman is as high as 550 millimetres. "If you go slightly east of Amman, to Zarqa," says Dr. Abandah, "the picture is again quite different. It's much drier over there, with an annual rainfall of only 130 millimetres."

The station at Amman Airport is the department's biggest, with a staff of 50. It is vital to air traffic and from Amman. Airlines rely on its forecasts to decide if they can make it to Paris, Istanbul or New York. "If there is an unexpected air turbulence at the altitude the aircraft is flying at, it can be a very expensive trip," Dr. Abandah says. "For example, a flight from Amman to London could burn up to JD5,000 worth of extra fuel if there are turbulent head winds. Our job, then, would be to guide it safely to another level."

This station is one of ten principle Synoptic Stations. These operate round-the-clock, in three shifts daily. Not all of them are as big as the Amman Airport station, though. Each average shift consists of about four people. The ten stations are situated at Amman Airport, Irbid, Ma'an, Mafrq, H4, H5, Aqaba airport, Aqaba port (marine station), Queen Alia airport and at Ras Maif in the Ajlun mountains where, incidentally, the station was half-buried under a record snowfall of 180 centimetres this winter.

Then there are ten agro-meteorological stations. These release information vital to agriculture by determining rainfall, wind conditions, evaporation and effects on the soil. Agriculture is always dependent on the weather,

and whatever data the meteorological department can give plays a large part in any farming project's plans. "Any amount of snow and water in Jordan is a blessing," Dr. Abandah maintains.

A new feature for the department is a satellite station of Swiss make, which was installed at the Queen Alia Airport in October 1982. It costs about JD 55,000. From it, the department receives information about the upper atmospheric conditions directly via its own satellite station. Dr. Abandah maintains that it is among the most-up-to-date in the world.

The upper air station in Mafrq send up two weather balloons daily. These are never recovered, but they transmit information about windspeeds, altitude, temperatures at various altitudes and dew points. The department's other stations are small climatological stations, manned by one or two people who gather data on humidity, temperature and rainfall.

The work of the meteorological department, is vital to air, sea and land transport, to military services and agriculture. In addition, many construction companies make hundreds of calls every month to find out about wind and rainfall, factors that affect soil stability. The sum total of the department's work is no joke, though many people tend to notice only the daily weather forecasts, and these only when things go wrong.

"The secret of weather forecasting," says Mr. K. Balian, the department's most experienced forecaster, "is to leave a 10 per cent margin of error." He says this with a knowing smile, the result of wisdom acquired through 40 years spent as observer and forecaster.

"This margin is needed because winds and clouds are notoriously temperamental. They can change speed and direction as they please, and there's nothing anyone can do about it."

The equipment can only measure what is going on right now; it cannot predict. Human judgement enters the scene at this point. Depending on the data given by the instruments, the forecaster must decide what is going to happen. The element of error is always there, though not necessarily due to the fault of the forecaster.

Mr. Balian joined this hazardous business back in 1942, when there was only an observation station, operated by Britain's Royal Air Force (RAF). This had been established in 1936, run by a civilian attached to the RAF, who only did three-hourly observations plus climate returns at the end of the month.

A group of British forecasters arrived in 1952 and stayed till 1956. Mr. Balian and four other Jordanians were termed LEMAs: Locally Employed Meteorological Assistants. Mr. Balian technically remained a LEMA until 1965, when he underwent training in London to be a weather forecaster.

In 1953, the observation station became a forecasting one. It was moved from Jerusalem Airport to Amman Airport in 1955, and was known as the Meteorological Office till 1956, when the ties with RAF were terminated.

Only in 1963 did the National Meteorological Department come into being as an independent body, not as a sub-section of civil aviation which it had been since 1956. In 1967, the department was moved to its present location

just opposite Amman Airport. It is a member of the World Meteorological Organisation in Geneva, which is affiliated to the United Nations.



Checking wind data

Last year's growth good in world terms

By Fahd Fanek

Jordan's national accounts for 1982 are not yet finalised or published, but the tentative estimates put the Gross National Product (GNP) at JD 1702.7 million, reflecting a growth of 16.2 per cent in current prices or 8.2 per cent in constant figures.

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP), which is the best indicator to measure local economic activities, reached JD 1350.7 million, a growth of 12.7 per cent in current prices and 4.9 per cent in real terms, using the cost of living index as a deflator.

One would not be impressed by these percentages of growth if perceived in relation to the Jordanian standard of growth, which was very high during the previous 10 years. However, these growth rates are impressive according to the international standards, where recession (or even depression) caused most economies to slow down to almost zero or negative growth worldwide during recent years.

Agriculture showed a substantial improvement. Value added in the agricultural sector in 1982 amounted to JD 84 million at cost factor, an increase of 21.7 per cent in current prices or 13.3 per cent in real terms. Manufacturing and mining, on the other hand, contributed JD 249 million in value added, an increase of 24.5 per cent over 1981 in current prices, or 15.9 per cent in 1981 constant prices, which is a very good achievement.

All the above-mentioned growth rates (except for agriculture) are lower than the targets



aimed at in the ambitious Five Year Economic and Social Development plan in its second year, but it goes without saying that they are very good if regarded in the light of circumstances prevailing in the Arab and international arenas.

Despite the worldwide recession and the cut back in Arab financial support to Jordan, the national economy performed satisfactorily and much better than expected.

It should be noted that the slight shortfall in Arab financial aid to the government in 1982 did not have an impact on the level of activity in the national economy. The government did not alter its development and general expenditure patterns during 1982 following the reduction in aid receipts, perhaps because it hoped that this reduction would be temporary, or because the necessary fundamental changes in economic policies need time and perhaps a fresh look by another set of administrators.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

17:30 Koran
17:30 Cartoons
18:10 Cartoons
18:30 George
19:00 Football
19:25 Local Programme
19:35 Agricultural Programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic Series
20:40 Arabic Play
23:00 News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 Comedy
21:00 Documentary
21:30 Saturday Variety Show
22:00 News in English
22:15 Feature Film

RADIO JORDAN

655 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM
Party on 95.60 KHz, SW

07:10 Morning Show
07:30 News Bulletin
08:00 News Summary
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:20 Picnic Time
16:00 Concert Hour
16:30 News Summary
16:35 Instrumental
17:00 Jordan Weekly
17:30 Special Feature
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Special Feature
18:30 Great Books of Islam
19:00 Newsdesk
19:30 Top Twenty
20:00 Date with a Star
20:30 News Summary
21:05 Classical Concert
21:25 First Spin
22:00 News Summary
22:30 Country Music
23:00 News Headlines, Sign Off

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* These exhibitions are on at the Royal Cultural Centre from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
— Jordan and the European Communities
— Translating of Astronomy
— Qu'ans and buildings
— Images de l'Art Français
— Leonardo's Working Models

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre - Tel. 6610267
American Centre - 41520
British Council - 36147-8
French Cultural Centre - 37009
Goethe Institute - 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre - 44203
Turkish Cultural Centre - 39777
Haya Arts Centre - 665195
Hussein Youth City - 667181
Y.W.C.A. - 41793
Y.W.M.C.A. - 664251
Amman Municipal Library - 36111
University of Jordan Library - 84355

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century oriental artists. Muzannah, Jabal Lowlbeh, Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.
Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab

Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman.

Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664280.
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Tyche Hotel. 1.30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Marriott Hotel. 1.30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1.30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel. 7.00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic). Jabal Amman, Tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic). Jabal Lowlbeh, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic). Jabal Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Ascension (Greek Orthodox). Abadi, 23541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer). Jabal Amman, 34553.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 75261.
St. Raphael Church (Syrian Orthodox). Ashrafieh, 71751.
Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational). Mezzat al Southern Bapista School in Shmeilat, 663249.

PRAYER TIMES

04:01 (Fajr)
05:25 (Sunrise) Shuruf
11:41 Dhuhur
15:13 'Asr
17:56 Maghrib
19:28 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Air Jordan. This information is supplied by Air Jordan. This information is supplied by Air Jordan.

ARRIVALS

06:45 Cairo (EA)
08:45 Cairo (EA)
09:35 Kuwait (KAC)
09:35 Jeddah (RJ)
09:35 Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
09:40 Dhahran (RJ)
09:45 Kuwait (RJ)
10:15 Beirut (RJ)
10:15 Abu Dhabi, Doha (GA)
10:20 Baghdad (IA)
10:30 Bucharest, Istanbul (RJ)
10:35 Cairo (RJ)
10:45 Frankfurt, Geneva (RJ)
11:15 New York, Vienna (RJ)
11:20 Copenhagen, Athens (RJ)
11:25 Beirut (RJ)
11:30 Kuwait (KAC)
11:35 Athens (GA)
11:35 Cairo (RJ)
11:45 Frankfurt (LH)
11:45 Beirut (MEA)
11:50 Baghdad (IA)
12:00 Cairo (RJ)
12:05 Baghdad (EA)
12:10 Cairo (EA)
12:15 Cairo (EA)

DEPARTURES

04:45 Cairo (RJ)
07:00 Agaba (RJ)
07:45 Beirut, Paris (AF)
07:50 Cairo (EA)
09:05 Beirut (MEA)
11:05 Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:15 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
11:25 Paris (RJ)
11:30 Athens (GA)
12:00 London (RJ)
12:05 Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)
12:30 Cairo (RJ)
12:35 Kuwait (KAC)
12:40 Cairo (RJ)
12:45 Baghdad (RJ)
12:45 Beirut (RJ)

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 75111
Fire, fire, police 194
Blood bank 75121
Civil Defence rescue 60111
Fire headquarters 23005
Police rescue 192, 2111, 37777
Police headquarters 39141
Traffic police 56390-1
Electric Power Co. 36381-2
Municipal water service 71125-8

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jds
Belgian franc 74.5 74.9
Dutch guilder 131.5 132.3
Egyptian guinea 314 317.7
French franc 49.3 49.6
Iraqi dinar 521.8 523.5
Italian lire (for 100) 24.8 25
Japanese yen (for 100) 150 150.9
Kuwaiti dinar 1226.6 1233.6
Lebanese lira 85.8 86.9
Omani rial 1030.2 1039
Qatari rial 98.1 98.8
Saudi riyal 103.9 104.5
Swedish crown 47.7 48
Swiss franc 172.4 173.4
Syrian lira 60.5 61.2
UAE dirham 97.3 98
U.S. dollar 527.4 530.6
U.S. dollar 359 361
W. German mark 148 148.9

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fair, with normal temperature and winds will be light and variable. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm.

Low/high temperature in deg. C.

Amman 10/20
Aqaba 15/25
Deserts 10/22
Jordan Valley 14/24
Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 23, Aqaba 29. Humidity readings: Amman 57 per cent. Aqaba 48 per cent.

SPORTS

WBC champion Holmes to retire at end of '83

NEW YORK (R) — World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight champion Larry Holmes said Friday he would fight two or three more times this year and then retire.

"1983 is my last year of boxing," Holmes said at a press conference for his May 20 title defence against unbeaten Tim Witherpoon in Las Vegas.

Assuming he beats Witherpoon, who has had only 15 professional fights, Holmes, 33, will then meet the winner of a bout between Greg Page, the WBC's top-ranked contender and Renaldo Snipes, the number three.

The Holmes-Witherpoon and Page-Snipes fights will be held in a specially-constructed 20,000-seat stadium at a Las Vegas hotel.

World Boxing Association (WBA) heavyweight champion Michael Dokes will meet Mike Weaver, from whom he won the title in a controversial first-round knockout last December, on the same card.

Originally, promoter Don King said the two title fights would be held in separate cities and televised as part of a four-fight package including the Page-Snipes bout and a WBA cruiserweight title fight between champion Ossie Ocasio of Puerto Rico and number one contender Randy Stephens.

But King said Friday that all four fights would be staged at the same hotel on the Las Vegas strip.

Holmes, undefeated in 42 professional fights, reiterated that he had no intention of meeting Dokes to unify the heavyweight title.

"There's only one heavyweight champion, and that's me," said Holmes who outpointed Lucien Rodriguez of France in a 12-round bout in Scranton, Pennsylvania, on Sunday. "The other title doesn't even exist."

Holmes has said in the past that a fight between him and Dokes could arouse suspicions because of his close association with King. King once managed Holmes and has promoted most of his fights and is now the controlling force behind Dokes, who is managed by King's son, Carl.

Although he has a potent right hand, Witherpoon will be a clear underdog against Holmes.

FIFA kills off North American hopes of staging '86 world finals

ZURICH (R) — The International Football Federation (FIFA) virtually killed off North America's hopes of staging the 1986 World Soccer Cup finals with Thursday's announcement that its special committee would pursue only the Mexican application.

Although a final decision has not been reached, Mexico, who applied to stage the finals with Brazil, Canada and the U.S. after original hosts Colombia withdrew, must now be favourites to be named hosts when FIFA's executive committee meets in Stockholm on May 20.

FIFA's statement said the special committee—comprising chairman Hermann Neuberger of West Germany and his compatriot Horst Schmidt, Argentine Carlos Alberto Lacoste and General Secretary Joseph Blatter—would visit Mexico between April 11 and 18.

It added that the committee had reached its conclusions "after careful study and consideration" and said the applications from the U.S. and Canada deviated too far from the terms of reference approved by the executive.

FIFA said the applications from the two North American neighbours were well prepared and were backed by letters of support from their respective heads of state.

But Canada had only offered nine stadiums instead of the required 12 the statement said, and the vast distances between venues in North America would add to organisational problems.

All three countries' applications will be presented to the executive meeting where a decision based on information received and conclusions reached will be made, it added.

FIFA's announcement follows newspaper reports suggesting the U.S. were firm favourites to host the finals.

But in a recent interview with Reuters, Blatter said the reports were "pure speculation and arbitrary guessing", without any factual basis.

Speculation reached a peak with stories that the venue would be moved to Italy, with none of the continental American candidates being able to meet the stringent FIFA requirements.

Mexico hosted the World Cup finals in 1970, when there were 16 teams instead of the present 24.

U.S. protests

NEW YORK (R) — The United States Soccer Federation (USSF) has asked the International Football Federation (FIFA) to reconsider the American bid to stage the 1986 World Cup finals.

In a telex to FIFA headquarters in Zurich, the USSF said Thursday's decision, made by a four-man special committee, to pursue only Mexico's application was "unacceptable" and requested clarification of the action.

In the telex to FIFA, Werner Fricker, chairman of the USSF World Cup Organising Committee, said: "Your decision not to visit the United States as prescribed by your own rules and regulations is unacceptable."

The United States has expended considerable time and effort in preparing for your visit in-

cluding a United States congressional hearing, a visit with the president, a visit to each of our facilities and an audio visual presentation.

"We would like to know why your decision was made in such an abrupt manner. We hereby respectfully request that you reverse your decision and visit the United States."

Howard J. Samuels, the President of the North American Soccer League (NASL), backed up that view when he said: "I am truly outraged at FIFA's announcement that they would only consider Mexico's application without even making inspection tours of the U.S. and Canada."

"To deny both countries the opportunity to present their cases in person, because of supposed distance problems between stadium sites, is unrealistic. FIFA should give us the chance to show them our facilities, and if there are problems, to then solve them."

Samuels went on: "I think their action is an insult not only to the soccer federations of both countries, but also to President Reagan and Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau of Canada, both of whom have expressed their undivided enthusiasm for hosting the World Cup."

The Canadians have not given up hope, however. In Ottawa, Deputy Sports Minister Pete Lesau said: "We're disappointed. Frankly we don't see it as a defeat but as a setback."

"As far as we're concerned, the door has been left ajar for further efforts and that FIFA is not dismissing our bid but setting it aside and visiting Mexico only."

Borg's tennis career ends

MONTE CARLO (R) — Bjorn Borg's glittering tennis career came to an end Thursday when he was beaten 4-6, 7-5, 7-6 by French teenager Henri Leconte in the second round of the Monte Carlo Open.

The Swede, one of the greatest players the game has seen, said before the tournament that it would be his last before retiring from top class tennis.

He received a standing ovation from a crowd of more than 6,000 packing the Monte Carlo country club's main court after Leconte, a member of the losing French Davis Cup final team last year, clinched the match by winning the third set tie-breaker.

The match was a fitting climax to Borg's 11-year career, highlighted by five successive Wimbledon titles.

All the familiar Borg traits were on display—the powerful, raking two handed backhand, the intense examination of the racket head between points, and the cool, expressionless face.

At the end, as photographers surged round the two players, Borg stood for a moment, looked around the court, smiled and then strode off to the dressing room.

Leconte, a brilliant but erratic player, lost the first set after making a number of unforced errors. But in the second set he raced to a 3-0 lead only to see Borg play some of his best tennis, including some superb passing shots, to draw level at 3-3.

The Frenchman again broke service to lead 5-3 but Borg came back to make it 5-5. Leconte gri-

tted his teeth and broke again to take the set 7-5.

The Frenchman raced to a 4-1 lead in the deciding set before Borg, renowned as a great fighter, stormed back to take the set to a tie-breaker.

But there was to be no reprieve for the Swede. Leconte, playing some of his best tennis of the match, took the tie-break 7-4.

Afterwards Leconte said: "Winning here is fantastic but it is sad that I had to beat Borg in his last match."

Borg's career took off in 1972 when at the age of 15 he came back from two sets down to beat New Zealand's Onny Parun in a Davis Cup tie. Later that year he won the Wimbledon junior title.

The first of his major titles came in 1974 when he won the Italian Open just before his 18th birthday. The French Open title followed a few weeks later. He retained the French crown in 1975 and won it four more times from 1978 to 1981.

Borg's major achievement was his five successive Wimbledon titles between 1976 and 1980, an unprecedented feat since the abolition in 1922 of the challenge round, which required the defending champion to play only one match.

Borg, with that cool, unemotional approach that betrayed his Nordic ancestry, won a record 41 singles matches in a row before John McEnroe beat him in the 1981 final.

If Wimbledon was the scene of his greatest triumphs, the U.S.

Open was where he encountered his greatest frustration, losing in each of his four finals, to Jimmy Connors in 1976 and 1978 and to McEnroe in 1980 and 1981.

His 1981 defeat was his last appearance in a major final. Last year he played a limited number of tournaments after refusing to commit himself to the minimum of 10 Grand Prix events, a new requirement for players to exempt themselves from qualifying.

Borg felt that with his unique record he should not have to go through the hassle of qualifying. But he did not press the point as others might have done—he simply went into semi-retirement.

His growing disenchantment with competitive tennis led him to announce that the 1983 Monte Carlo Open would be his last—a fitting place for his finale as he is a resident of the tiny principality and a member of the country club.

After the match Borg confirmed his professional career was over. "That's the end," he said. "I'm happy that I won't be going out and competing any more."

He said he would most miss "all the people, the atmosphere and the cheering," but added: "I'm glad that when I wake up in the morning, I know I won't have to go out and practice four or five hours."

Borg said the defeat which ranked most was by Connors in the 1976 U.S. Open final. "I had a lot of set points to go 2-1 up," he added. Connors went on to win in four sets.

Sunderland faces 3 hours hard labour with matches against Liverpool, United

LONDON (R) — Easter may be a holiday for some but English first division soccer club Sunderland face three hours of hard labour with matches against Liverpool and Manchester United.

It is a task that should thoroughly test Sunderland's recent burst of improved form which has carried them from bottom place at the start of the year to a relatively respectable 15th in the 22-team division.

If they beat Liverpool on Saturday they would be the first team to win a League match at the first division leaders' Anfield ground this season.

Liverpool, 13 points clear at the top of the division, have scored 50 goals in winning 14 and drawing three of their home League games.

On Easter Monday Sunderland are at home to third-placed Manchester United, a match which may see the return of United's England captain Bryan Robson.

Robson has been out of action for nearly a month with a serious ankle injury.

United manager Ron Atkinson is taking a cautious line with Robson with the F.A. Cup semifinal against Arsenal coming up on April 16.

Atkinson may insist that Robson's only match over the weekend is in a friendly fixture in the Isle of Man on Sunday. But Robson is restless. "I think I could go straight back in and naturally I'm bursting to be back in the thick of things."

Before the Sunderland match, United have a home game on Saturday against Coventry, who have slipped from fifth in the table to 13th in recent weeks.

English F.A. Cup semi-finalists Brighton should be back at full strength when they continue their bid to climb off the bottom of the first division over the Easter weekend.

Brighton, who meet second division Sheffield Wednesday in the Cup on April 16, hope to have injured Irish international Gerry Ryan and Tony Greashall back in the side to face Tottenham Saturday and Southampton on Monday.

Greashall missed Ireland's European Championship win in Malta on Wednesday while Ryan has been out of the team for the past two weeks.

The return of Greashall and Ryan should be a tremendous boost to Brighton.

Oxford favourites for Boat Race

LONDON (R) — Oxford are firm favourites to win the University Boat Race against Cambridge on the River Thames Saturday despite a bitter wrangle over one of their crew and the outbreak of a virus infection.

The Boat Race, between eight-oared crews from England's two best-known universities, remains a feature event on the British sporting calendar.

First held in 1829, it has been rowed over a four miles 374 yards (seven kms) stretch of the Thames

between Putney and Mortlake since 1863.

The bitter wrangle was over the eligibility of Oxford oarsman Boris Rankov, 28, to row in the race.

Rankov, who has been in Oxford's last five winning crews, is both a college lecturer and a research student and Cambridge claimed as a professional postgraduate he was ineligible. The acrimonious row was settled three weeks ago in Rankov's favour.

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— Monday, April 4, 1983 at 8 p.m.
— Tickets: JD 10
3. CONCERT, Royal Cultural Centre, Amman
— Tuesday, April 5, 1983 at 8 p.m. (same programme as Gala Concert)
— Tickets: JD 8
4. CONCERT, Royal Cultural Centre, Amman
— Wednesday, April 6, 1983 at 8 p.m. (different prog.)
— Tickets: JD 6

TICKETS ON SALE:

- (1) Goethe Institute, Tel: 41993, (2) Royal Cultural Centre, Tel: 669026,
(3) EEC Delegation, Tel: 668191, (4) Luftansae Office, Tel: 44377, (5)
Jordan Intercontinental Hotel, Tel: 41361, (6) Amra Hotel, Tel: 815072.

Being staged in co-operation with:
(1) The Ministry of Culture and Youth,
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Indian cricketers delay an all-out West Indian offensive

GEORGETOWN, Guyana (R)

Three quick wickets with the second new ball Thursday helped India delay an all-out West Indian offensive on the first day of the third cricket test here.

But with the pitch playing perfectly the home side are still in a strong position at 259 for five when play resumes Saturday after Friday's rest day with Vivian Richards 97 not out and skipper Clive Lloyd on two.

Still to bat is wicketkeeper Jef-

frey Dujon, who made a hundred against the tourists when playing for Jamaica in their opening fixture and who also had the measure of their bowling in the one-day international earlier in the week.

While the Indians bowled with great heart on the opening day, they were not sufficiently aggressive to exploit the lacklustre form of some of the earlier West Indies batsmen, particularly Gordon Greenidge, who compiled a laborious 70 in 236 minutes.

Hong Kong rally postponed

PEKING (R) — Sponsorship problems have forced the postponement of the Hong Kong to Peking International Motor Rally, due to begin on May 1, the Chinese joint organisers said Friday.

The Chinese Motor Sports Association (CMSA) said the hitch was over Japanese financial backing for the event, believed to be the first of its kind in China since the Peking-Paris Rally of 1907.

INVITATION TO BIDS

Ministry of Education Projects Directorate announces invitation to bids for the following packages which are parts of the 3rd Educational Project:

- | | Bid No. |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 1) Food production lab & dining area furniture. | 38 |
| 2) Central heating & plumbing, supplies. | 39 |
| 3) Equipments and instruments for medical labs. | 40 |
| 4) Chemicals supplies. | 41 |
| 5) Child care centre supplies. | 42 |
| 6) Instrumentation supplies. | 43 |

Companies and agents of manufacturers are invited to collect copies of these tenders from the Projects Directorate situated in Abdaly, behind Public Security Headquarters, against payment of JD 5 for each tender, starting April 2, 1983. Closing date will be May 15, 1983, 10.00 a.m.

Projects Director

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WORLD

Hanoi attacks the Khmer Rouge

BANGKOK (R) — Vietnamese troops clashed with Khmer Rouge guerrillas Friday around Kampuchea's main supply line to the Thai border region after a big Vietnamese assault knocked out Phnom Chat, a Khmer Rouge base.

Thai military officials at the frontier said fighting around Phnom Chat and other combined refugee-insurgent camps nearby had eased off overnight.

But they reported clashes between the Vietnamese and the Khmer Rouge insurgents further south and deeper inside western Kampuchea around the Route Five Highway linking the towns of Poipet and Sisophon.

The officials said the Khmer Rouge were probably attempting to harass the Vietnamese to relieve pressure on the border bases.

The newly-reinforced Vietnamese troops reopened their dry season offensive against the Kampuchean insurgents on the frontier with Thailand on Wednesday night with a heavy barrage of artillery and tank fire.

15,000 refugees cross into Thailand

About 15,000 refugees fleeing the fighting crossed into Thailand and were straddled on either side of an anti-tank ditch.

International relief and aid organisations were meeting Friday to

decide whether the refugees needed to be moved further into Thailand for their safety.

Red Cross workers at the main hospital for refugees at the United Nations-run Khao-i-Dang camp on the Thai side of the frontier said no extra casualties had been brought in overnight.

Diplomats said this would tend to confirm military reports that there was a lull in the border fighting.

Quoting reports from the border, they said the sound of gunfire could be heard but it came from the south away from the main insurgent camps.

Thai military authorities said Friday that at least 32 civilians including a Buddhist monk were killed during the Vietnamese attack on the Phnom Chat camp and about 150 were wounded, 70 of them seriously.

They said a Vietnamese soldier was killed by Thai troops in a brief skirmish Thursday when a Vietnamese squad crossed 500 metres into Thailand.

An army spokesman in Bangkok said more than 100 Vietnamese shells landed on Thai territory and Thai artillery units returned the fire.

The attack against Phnom Chat camp followed the same pattern the Vietnamese used two months ago when they overran Nong Chan camp, the biggest refugee settlement on the frontier.

U.K. orders 3 Soviets to leave

LONDON (R) — Britain has ordered the expulsion of two Soviet diplomats and a Soviet journalist, apparently suspected of spying.

The Foreign Office announced that assistant air attaché Gennadi Primakov and second secretary Serguei Ivanov were being expelled for engaging "in activities incompatible with their status" — a phrase usually associated with espionage.

Igor Titov, a correspondent working for the Soviet political magazine New Times, was told to leave Britain after taking part in "unacceptable activities."

Col. Primakov, whose job took him to British air displays and exhibitions, and Mr. Titov, who attended last year's major party political conferences, were given seven days to leave the country.

Mr. Ivanov, who is abroad, will not be allowed to return.

Following Thursday night's Foreign Office statement, a spokesman said there would be no justification for any reciprocal action by Moscow.

The latest announcement reduces the number of Soviet diplomats in London to 43.

No comment was immediately available from the Soviet embassy but Mr. Titov angrily declared his innocence.

"It is ridiculous to suggest that I am a spy," he said, "I am a journalist who shares with his wife and two young children, wife and two young children."

Mr. Titov, 38, worked in Britain

from 1974 until 1979 as a Soviet news agency TASS correspondent.

Madrid expulsion alleged

MADRID (R) — Four Soviet diplomats have left Madrid secretly after Spanish authorities accused them of spying, the daily newspaper ABC reported Thursday.

Quoting highly reliable sources, it said the departure of the four men was arranged by the Spanish and Soviet authorities to avoid "reciprocal action" by the Kremlin.

No comment was available from either the Soviet embassy or the Spanish foreign ministry.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Shuttle trouble due to 'honest problems'

CANOGA PARK, California (R) — Three engine leaks that caused a two-month delay in the maiden voyage of the U.S. space shuttle Challenger, were the result of "honest mistakes," according to the men who built the shuttle. Challenger, with a crew of two, is now set to blast off from Cape Canaveral on a five-day mission Monday at 1830 GMT. After the launch was put back from Jan. 20, crews worked round the clock to keep Challenger on a schedule that would not set back the entire shuttle programme. "There were three distinct leaks," said Dominic Santini, a spokesman for Rockwell International, which made the engines here.

Jane Fonda sued by 3 women

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — Actress Jane Fonda, apostle of women's rights, is being sued for \$3 million on grounds of sex discrimination in her keep-fit club. Three former women employees claim they were paid a dollar an hour less than two male workers at Miss Fonda's San Francisco health studio. Her company, Workout, deny discrimination against females. Mary Conn, 29, Erin Bell, 24, and Susan Craig, 27, served as instructors in a "body-building" room until it was closed as unprofitable last year. "We're mad," Miss Conn told reporters. "Jane stands for so much — women's rights, and all these good things — but she doesn't follow through."

'Dead' woman gives birth in U.S.

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — A woman declared clinically dead in January has given birth by caesarean section to a healthy three-pound (1.4 kg) boy. Doctors told a news conference Thursday the baby had an excellent chance of survival. The woman's body functions were kept running for two months by a life-support system at the University of California's Moffitt Hospital here. Immediately after the operation, the mother's respirator was disconnected and she stopped breathing.

Peking, Moscow to revive exchanges

PEKING (R) — China and the Soviet Union have agreed to revive student exchanges in the latest sign of improved relations between the two communist giants, bitter enemies for more than 20 years. A Chinese foreign ministry spokesman said Thursday 10 students from each country would take part in the exchange, which had been agreed in principle at Sino-Soviet talks in Moscow earlier this month.

Extortionists on trial in London

LONDON (R) — Iranian cities fear of being sent home was traded on by extortionists, London's central criminal court was told Thursday. Before the court were three people, including an immigration officer, who were said to have obtained up to £6,000 (\$8,700) for documents granting visa extensions. The prosecution said the group operated through a defunct language school to deceive the immigration authorities into believing the Iranians were receiving education.

Over 3,000 inquiries about Falklands

LONDON (R) — More than 3,000 people have inquired about settling in the Falkland Islands since Britain captured them from Argentina last June, a Falklands government spokesman said. Several inquiries had come from Indian, Pakistani and Hong Kong businessmen wishing to set up shop in the South Atlantic colony. Adrian Monk, the Falklands Islands government representative in London, told a news conference. The Islands' present population is 1,200. Mr. Monk said the Falklands government wanted to attract up to 6,000 settlers, but he added that a lack of housing could cause delays. More than 600 of the 3,000 inquiries were from immigration agencies.

U.S. refuses to buy bogus human remains

BANGKOK (R) — Two bogus packets of organic matter, alleged to contain the remains of American pilots shot down in the Vietnam War, were offered for sale to U.S. officials six weeks ago, American officials said Friday.

The packets were later found to contain chicken bones and Asian human remains.

U.S. government representatives were approached by a Laotian man in northeast Thailand but refused to buy the packets, offered for 3,000 baht (about

\$130). The packets were then delivered to the U.S. embassy in Bangkok on March 9 by Walter ("Butch") Jones, brother-in-law of former U.S. green beret Col. James ("Bo") Gritz.

The results of laboratory tests on their contents were disclosed in Washington Thursday by the U.S. Defence Department.

It was not known whether Gritz or his associates paid for the packets, which he first hinted they had found on a recent foray into

Laos to look for missing American prisoners of war.

When the embassy received the packets, Gritz, 43, was in Nakhon Phanom on bail awaiting trial with four friends for illegally possessing a radio receiver-transmitter. All five have since returned to the United States.

The U.S. government representatives had been in Nakhon Phanom when the Laotian approached them, an embassy official said.

"We were shown the partial

remains that Jones later delivered to the embassy and were told we could have them for 3,000 baht," the official said. "The complete set with personal effects of the downed pilot would be available for 35,000 baht (about \$1,600)."

"As it is, the willingness of some people to pay for what are touted as remains has meant genuine samples are often scattered among a number of people and it makes the business of tracking them down very difficult," he said.

Rome judge gets veiled death threat

ROME (R) — The chief prosecutor at the mass trial of 71 leftist intellectuals accused of backing Italy's Red Brigades guerrillas said he had received a thinly-veiled death threat.

Antonio Morini told the court Thursday he received an anonymous telephone call at home Wednesday night and was warned to "watch out."

The prosecutor spent much of Wednesday questioning Toni Negri, a former professor of political science at Padua University who has become a symbol of the government's belief that leftist intellectuals were behind the Red Brigades and other guerrilla groups.

"We did not come up with any evidence of fraud," the jury foreman, Eugene McCarthy, a former policeman, later told reporters. "We felt Erin loved Groucho, but in handling his financial matters she committed a breach of trust."

Defence lawyer Melvin Belli, the senior partner in Mr. Sabih's law firm, said: "The bank sued Miss Fleming for money, but they are not going to get one dime from her."

Argentina demos end

BUENOS AIRES (R) — A series of demonstrations and strikes against Argentina's military government culminated Wednesday night when 10,000 people marched through Buenos Aires to express anger at its economic policies.

The march was staged to mark the anniversary of a similar demonstration which was forcibly suppressed by police, who made more than 2,000 arrests.

But, despite fears of more violence, it passed off peacefully in the presence of large contingents of heavily armed riot police.

Argentina's inflation rate is running at more than 200 per cent a year, unemployment has reached unprecedentedly high levels and the country is suffering the worst recession in its history.

The march followed a 24-hour general strike which brought Argentina to a virtual standstill last Monday and was backed by both the headline "Brasil" and more moderate "Azopardo" wings of the General Confederation of Labour (CGT) trade union.

The Brazil wing organised the march, but it did not have the bac-

king of the Azopardo faction which believed that it might cause violence.

In the event, the only incidents came when a number of demonstrators burned British and U.S. flags and shouted: "To the firing squad all the soldiers who sold the nation."

The march came three days before the first anniversary of Argentina's occupation of the British-ruled Falkland (Malvinas) islands in the South Atlantic.

Argentina granted asylum

BUENOS AIRES (R) — An Argentine magazine editor ordered arrested by the military government last week left Wednesday night for Caracas, airport officials said.

Jorge Fontevicchia, editor of the weekly magazine La Semana, took refuge in the Venezuelan embassy after the government banned his publication a week ago.

He was given a safe conduct to leave the country after being granted asylum by Venezuela.

El Salvador frees 2 U.S. journalists

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Police have freed two U.S. journalists arrested last week on suspicion of having ties with leftist guerrillas. U.S. embassy officials said.

Thomas James Western and Joan Ambrose Newton were released after investigations by a military judge.

They were arrested last Saturday at Mr. Western's house, suspected of links with insurgents fighting the U.S.-backed government here.

Mr. Western, a part-time correspondent for Associated Press Radio, was several days unshaven and close to tears as he was met by reporters and Minnesota Congressman James Oberstar at the police headquarters where he had been held since last Saturday.

Miss Ambrose Newton, who works for the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) was released from house arrest at a U.S. embassy official's home.

Embassy spokesmen said Miss Ambrose Newton was free to do as she pleased as she was not the main suspect, but Mr. Western was not allowed to leave the country pending further investigation.

"I don't care where I go, just let me out of here," Mr. Western said as he left jail.

Police Col. Francisco Moran told Reuters their arrests followed a telephone call Mr. Western made on Friday to a Salvadoran citizen living in the United States.

He said the Salvadoran was involved in illegal arms traffic to leftist guerrillas.

In a letter smuggled out of his cell, to reporters, Mr. Western denied any ties with guerrillas or arms smuggling.

Guerrilla claims

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Left-wing guerrillas claimed Thursday to have killed or wounded almost an entire U.S.-trained Salvadoran army company in a 12-hour battle for a small hamlet near the border with Honduras.

According to the insurgents, shortly after they seized San Isidro, a company of an estimated 130 men from the Belloso battalion was sent from nearby Oscala to retake the hamlet but was pinned down by heavy fire, and suffered 67 dead and 47 wounded.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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RENDER UNTO CAESAR

East-West vulnerable with a 60 partscore. East deals.

NORTH
♠ Void
♥ J74
♦ AK5
♣ AK9742

EAST
♠ Q9643
♥ AK1085
♦ 953
♣ KQ108

SOUTH
♠ J72
♥ A62
♦ 987432
♣ J

The bidding:
East South West North
1 ♠ 2 ♣ 2 ♠ 6 ♣
Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Four of ♣.

Entries are precious. Don't squander them recklessly!

We will be kind and describe South's decision to enter the auction as a flight of fancy. In spite of the opponents' partscore, the requirements for an overall do not change materially, especially at the two-level. More often than not, action of this kind simply prolongs a disastrous rubber. After West offered a competitive raise, North made an eminently reasonable leap to six diamonds!

Luckily for the defense, South's declarer play matched his bidding. He ruffed the opening spade lead in dummy, crossed to the jack of clubs and then took the ace

and king of trumps. Muttering about bad breaks when East showed out, declarer then tried to run clubs in the hope that something good would happen. Nothing did. Down two.

Even South's knowledge of the odds left something to be desired — four cards rate to break 3-1 significantly more often than 3-2. There is a simple line of play that must succeed if trumps are no worse than 3-1 and clubs are 3-2.

After ruffing the opening lead declarer crosses to the jack of clubs — that guards against a 4-1 distribution of that suit. But now declarer should cash only the king of trumps in dummy for an entry later, then start on clubs. Declarer discards his remaining two spades on the next two rounds of the suit. If no one ruffs, declarer continues clubs, discarding his heart losers.

Sooner or later, a defender will ruff a club. But that leaves only one trump outstanding. Whether the defender returns a heart or a spade, declarer can win — either the ace of hearts or by ruffing a spade in hand. Declarer can then get back to dummy with the ace of diamonds, drawing the last outstanding trump in the process, and run his clubs to discard his remaining heart losers.



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